

WFSF Visits Tamkang University for Accreditation in Future Studies

Campus focus

On April 30, Dr. Luke Van der Laan, Director of the Accreditation Committee of the World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF), responsible for international research and teaching institution accreditation in futures studies, and an accreditation committee member, Associate Professor Chia-Ling Lai from the European Culture and Tourism Research Institute at National Taiwan Normal University, visited the College of Education and the Department of Educational Design at Tamkang University for a 2-day accreditation of the university's futures program. The evaluation report will be submitted to the WFSF review committee, and the results will be announced shortly.

Tamkang University has applied for accreditation with the College of Education and the Department of Education and Futures Design as the accredited units, and the presentation was conducted by the Chair of the Department of Education and Futures Design, Dr. Jian-Bang Deng. During the 2-day site visit, Dr. Van der Laan comprehensively understood the institution's mission, faculty, curriculum, teaching methods, students, and resources through meetings with chairs, faculty, and students. He mentioned that globally, only 3 institutions have been recognized by the WFSF as offering an Accredited Foresight Program. Tamkang University not only has the opportunity to become the fourth, but he also encouraged the university to become the third curriculum accreditation center for the organization. During the inaugural meeting, Dr. Van der Laan exchanged views on the ongoing accreditation of futures studies teaching institutions with the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chairman of the University's Futures Committee, Dr. Hui-Huang Hsu, Dean of the College of Education, Dr. Kuo-Hua Chen, and Associate Professor of the Department of Education and Futures Design, Dr. Shun-Jie Ji. He expressed that the accreditation philosophy of the WFSF is twofold: on the one hand, it establishes

international standards, and on the other hand, it considers regional appropriateness. He emphasized the importance of future-oriented and design thinking alongside critical and analytical thinking, stating that these elements will reshape systemic thinking and become the most crucial areas in higher education.





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